



Long Beach Police Department

Crime Watch News

Crime Prevention Unit . 100 Long Beach Blvd . Long Beach, CA 90802

Anthony W. Batts
Chief of Police

John Bretza
Deputy Chief of Police
Patrol Bureau

Ted Hulsey
Deputy Chief of Police
Investigations Bureau

Tim Jackman
Deputy Chief of Police
Support Bureau

Braden Phillips
Manager
Administration Bureau

Karen Owens
Administrator
Community Relations Division

Kevin Coy
Sergeant
Crime Prevention Unit
Community Relations Division

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Upcoming Events and
Volunteer Opportunities.... 1

National Night Out 2

Join Our E-Notify 2

Major Scam 3

Youth Leadership
Academy..... 3

Neighborhood Watch
Success Stories 4

COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION MEETING

Neighborhood Watch Appreciation Barbecue

Wednesday, July 16, 2003
6:00 p.m.

Long Beach Police Academy
7290 East Carson Street
(Behind Lowe's Home Improvement)

It is time again to honor all of our hard-working and dedicated Block Captains at our annual Neighborhood Watch Appreciation BBQ. Please come and enjoy a BBQ on us!

Please note that we have moved the BBQ to our Police Academy.

Block Captain Sharman Wallace has been selected by the Chief's Neighborhood Watch Advisory Group to receive a "Chief's Citation," for outstanding and continuing efforts to keep her neighborhood organized and safe from crime. She will also be honored at this event!

Upcoming Events/Volunteer Opportunities

- July 12th, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Community Voices and Budget Choices 2004
The Grand, 4101 East Willow Street, Long Beach
Call for more information: Desiree Gooch, 570-7658
- July 25th, Saturday, 1:05 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Striker's Baseball "Law Enforcement Day" at Blair Field
Come and watch **McGruff** throw the first pitch!
\$10 per ticket with catered lunch/\$5,\$7 and \$9 tickets available too!
Call for more information or tickets: Striker's Baseball, Andrew Starke, 434-6777
- August 5th, Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
National Night Out 2003
Lowe's Home Improvement Parking Lot, 2840 Bellflower Boulevard, Long Beach
Call for more information: Police Services Assistant Christa King, 570-7159



TURN YOUR LIGHTS ON AND BE A PART OF NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2003 6:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

On Tuesday, August 5, 2003, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., the Long Beach Police Department invites you and your neighbors to participate in the 20th annual National Night Out, "America's Night Out Against Crime" event. Residents in neighborhoods throughout Long Beach and across the nation are asked to lock their doors, **turn on outside lights** and spend the evening with neighbors and police to give crime a "going away party."

The Long Beach Police Department fully supports National Night Out and has been an active participant in this program for several years now. Traditionally, we have encouraged neighborhoods to host a variety of events including Neighborhood Watch block parties, BBQ cook-outs and visits by local beat officers



and crime prevention staff members. We encourage you to host your own neighborhood event as we believe they help promote and strengthen neighborhood bonds and local community spirit.

We will also provide a second option for those who wish to attend a larger community-police event. Last year's "Crime Prevention and Safety Fair," was a huge success! We will be hosting it once again this year to enable all residents to

participate in National Night Out! Please join us with your neighbors on your front porch or meet us in front of the Lowe's Home Improvement at 2840 Bellflower Boulevard. Hope to see you there!

National Night Out, "America's Night Out Against Crime"

Registration and "Meet Your Police" Request Form

We would like to acknowledge those of you who will be hosting your own Neighborhood BBQ, Block Party or National Night Out block event. We'd also like to schedule an Officer or Crime Prevention Unit Staff Member to attend your event. Please complete and return this registration form today. Mail or fax it to the Community Relations Division.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Location of Meeting: _____

Did your group participate in the 2002 annual National Night Out? Yes _____ No _____

What type of event is your neighborhood planning? _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

JOIN OUR E-NOTIFY



We are creating an email notification service that will allow you to be notified of police events and other news that occur within our city. Please encourage your friends and neighbors to join, allowing the Police Department to communicate important information to you, the concerned citizens of Long Beach. Follow the four easy steps below to subscribe to this free service:

1. Access the Long Beach Police Department's website at: www.longbeachpd.org
2. Locate the column of site topics on the left side of the page, and click on "Join Our e-Notify."
3. Click on "Join Here," at the message titled, "We Need to Contact You.."
4. A form titled, "Help Us Communicate With You" will appear. Complete the information requested. Click on "Submit," and we'll regularly send you information!



BEWARE OF THE PHONE SCAM

DO NOT DIAL AREA CODE 809

This telephone scam is being perpetrated all throughout the United States. It is pretty scary, especially given the way the

scam-artists persuade you to call. Be sure to read this article and pass it on to your friends and family members so they won't be the scam's next victims.

Do not respond to e-mails, phone calls, or web pages that ask you to dial a telephone number with area code "809". It might easily cost you \$2,400.00 or more if you respond. The National Fraud Information Center has identified this scam and is currently warning consumers about its risks.

Here is how it works:

You receive a message on your answering machine or your pager, which asks you to call a number beginning with area code "809." The reason you are asked to call varies. It can be to receive information about an ill family member, a death in the family, to tell you someone has been arrested, or to let you know you have won a wonderful prize, etc. In each case, you are told to call the "809" number right away. Since there are so many new area codes, many people unknowingly return these calls.

If you return this call from the United States, you will be charged \$2,425.00 per minute, and you will get a long recorded message. At this point, you are kept on the line as long as possible in an attempt to increase your phone charges. Unknowingly, when you receive your phone bill, you will often be charged as much as \$24,100.00 or more!

Why it works?

The "809" area code is located in the British Virgin Islands (The Bahamas). This area code can be used as a "pay-per-call" number, which is similar to our "900" area code in the United States. Since the "809" area code is not within the United States, it is not regulated like our "900" numbers, which require that you be notified and warned of charges and rates involved when dialing a "pay-per-call" number.

There is no requirement that these companies provide a time period during which you may terminate the call without being charged. Furthermore, even though many homes have "900" number blocking to avoid unwanted charges, these blocking systems do not work in preventing calls to an "809" area code number.

The solution:

Simply put, if you are asked to call a number with an "809" area code, and you don't recognize the number, be sure to disregard the message. Don't become the next victim of this costly scam. Trying to fight the charges afterward can become a real nightmare. Both your local and long distance carrier will not want to get involved and will likely tell you they are simply providing a billing for a foreign company. You will end up dealing with a foreign company that argues they have done nothing wrong and you will be stuck with the bill.

PRE-REGISTER FOR THE NATIONAL DO NOT CALL PROGRAM



You can sign up today at the Attorney General's Department of Justice website at : <http://nocall.doj.state.ca.us/>

It's simple. Just go to the web-site, click on ["Click Here To Pre-Register Now!"](#), complete the form and click on the "Submit" button. The Attorney General's Office will take care of the rest!

YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Long Beach Police Department's Police Athletic League (PAL) is piloting a "Youth Leadership Academy." This is a two-week program designed for boys and girls entering 8th and 9th grades. It will be held Monday through Friday :

July 21 – August 1

The curriculum will focus on the following concepts:

- Character building
- Crime and Consequence
- Rape prevention
- 15-hour computerized reading program
- Tours of the Court System, Juvenile Camp, Juvenile District Attorney
- Gang prevention
- SWAT and K-9 demonstrations
- Goal setting
- Team building
- Dealing with peer pressure
- Nutrition and Fitness
- Drug addition

There is no cost for the program; however, participants must be a member of the Long Beach PAL. A ten dollar annual fee is required for membership. Scholarships are available for those who need financial assistance. All interested youth should complete an application at one of the three PAL facilities as soon as possible. Class size is limited to 30 students. Our PAL facilities are located at 1401 W. 9th Street, 1205 Freeman Avenue, and 2311 E. South Street.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding this program, call PAL Volunteer, Shelley Brown, at (562) 570-8038.

Happy
4th
of
July



Long Beach Police Department
Community Relations Division
100 Long Beach Boulevard
Long Beach, CA 90802



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SUCCESS STORIES

This month we congratulate Block Captains David and Karen Allen on the success of their Neighborhood Watch group on the 300 block of Walnut Avenue. Their entire group contributed to this month's success story. Please share your own Neighborhood Watch success story by sending an article to the Community Relations Division, or e-mail it to limassa@longbeach.gov.

Our Neighborhood Watch group began in May of 1998. Our area was neglected, neighbors did not know each other, and drug and gang problems were rampant. Out of necessity, our Neighborhood Watch group began. As a group, we soon began making multiple calls on problem locations, including a bar that was frequented by gang members. We worked with several city departments, while videotaping and documenting criminal activity. Our efforts led to police surveillance, which forced the bar's closure. We now enjoy a well-attended anniversary party every October to mark that date!

We attribute our longevity to the contributions and strong leadership of our block captains. They are quick to introduce themselves to new neighbors and get great speakers for our meetings. The Allens host monthly meetings, followed by a potluck. We all agree this makes the meetings a fun and social event, which draws over 20 neighbors! We refurbished the Alamos Library Rose Garden, assisted with development of the Miracle on 4th Street Park, and participate in tree plantings and regular alley clean-ups. David and Karen are recipients of the Gold Shield Award and a Chief's Citation. Their efforts have also been recognized by Councilman Dan Baker.

Our group's closeness has brought us a stronger sense of community. Originally, no one knew each other. Now we all know each other by name. We now enjoy a sense of family, regularly attending picnics, concerts, dinners, and holiday celebrations together. Improvements in our neighborhood have led to increased home ownership, with new neighbors who take pride in the neighborhood and are quick to get involved. We enjoy the changes our hard work has brought to our community. In our meetings, we used to complain about drug houses and gang members staring us down on our own street. Now we complain about kids stomping freshly planted flowers...we've come a long way!

300 Block Walnut Avenue Neighborhood Watch Group